United Nations S/2012/787

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 October 2012

Original: English

Identical letters dated 24 October 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

As I write the present letter, Hamas terrorists are firing deadly rockets into the heart of southern Israel. In just the past day, more than 70 rockets have been launched into Israeli cities and communities. Every hour, the count continues to rise and the damage to life and property continues to grow. Life is paralysed for 1 million Israelis. Parents cannot go to work — and children are not going to school.

Hamas deliberately provoked this escalation. Yesterday, it detonated a bomb on Israel's border with Gaza, severely injuring an Israeli officer. It is time for the world to take note: Hamas is determined to murder Israelis and escalate conflict in our already very turbulent region.

Let me be clear. If the international community does not send a strong signal today, there could be tragic consequences tomorrow.

I call on you — and all other Security Council members — to condemn Hamas terrorism without any equivocation or delay. Hamas and other terrorists in our region will interpret the silence of the Security Council as a green light for terror and provocation.

Israel holds Hamas fully responsible for the terrorism that continues to flow from Gaza. In response to these terrorist attacks, Israel has exercised — and will continue to exercise — its right to self-defence, as appropriate, and will take all necessary measures to protect its citizens.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

12-56753 (E) 011112

Please recycle